INTERCEPTION CALL SIGNALING METHOD AND APPARATUS BETWEEN A GATEKEEPER AND AN INTELLIGENT PERIPHERAL IN A VOICE FRAME NETWORK

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Telecommunications apparatus between a voice frame network gatekeeper and an intelligent peripheral, e.g. an interactive voice response unit (IVR), includes a voice frame network connection for coupling the same. The apparatus further includes a protocol over the connection that provides supplemental service messaging therebetween, the protocol enabling the gatekeeper to selectively insert one or more messages to the intelligent peripheral and to selectively intercept one or more messages therefrom. Preferably such insertion is of one or more GR-1129-CORE send-toresource (STR) messages and such interception is of one or more ITU-T H.323 FACILITY messages including a RETURN RESULTS component. An invocation mechanism within the gatekeeper and a performance mechanism within the IVR permits the gatekeeper to set a defined task to the IVR, also preferably in accordance with the ITU-T H.323 and H.450 standards. The method involves configuring the gatekeeper as a supplemental services provider (SSP) and configuring the IVR as an intelligent peripheral, under ITU-T H.450. The method further involves conveying requests from the gatekeeper to the IVR and conveying responses thereto from the IVR to the gatekeeper, wherein the gatekeeper selectively intercepts one or more messages from the IVR and, optionally, also selectively inserts one more messages to the IVR.